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March 13, 1914. "Provisions for Outdoor Sleeping," by May MacConachie, Head Nurse, St. Elizabeth Dispensary of the Municipal Tuberculosis Sanitarium.

March 27, 1914. "What Should Constitute a Sufficient and Well Balanced Diet for Working People," by Mrs. Alice P. Norton, Dietitian of County Institutions.

April 10, 1914. "Nurse's Care of the Advanced Consumptive," by Elsa Lund, Head Nurse of the Iroquois Memorial Dispensary of the Municipal Tuberculosis Sanitarium.

The organization of the Tuberculosis Study Circle among the nurses of the Dispensary Department of the Municipal Tuberculosis Sanitarium, calling forth the best efforts of the nurses in getting information on various phases of tuberculosis for presentation to their co-workers in an interesting manner, is no doubt stimulating the progress of the entire nursing force, and it is the wish of the writer to call the attention of other nurses' organizations to this method of stimulating study among nurses.

LETTERS FROM A PRIVATE DUTY NURSE

V

THE NURSES' LODGE.

DEAR MARY:

I wonder how you are feeling these days. I am beginning to feel as if I were an old fogey and a back number; though I suspect the difference between myself and the younger nurses is not so much that between age and youth, as it is the difference in tone between the passing and the rising generation.

The youngsters are merry-hearted and they don't fuss over trifles and they do have the best times ever, only they make an unconscionable noise about it. In our day, deportment counted for a great deal; but it is difficult to imagine that these loud-voiced damsels ever heard of such a thing as deportment. I really don't know what American womanhood is coming to. Recently I was in a household where the daughter, a college senior used to lie in bed till the last minute and then hurry down to breakfast and complete her toilet by cleaning her nails and buttoning her boots at the table. When the laity behave as they do, I suppose we cannot expect too much of the profession; yet I must say that I was taken aback the other night, when I was on duty at the *Riverway*. I went from my patient's room to the desk in the corridor where the charts and report books are kept; and on the floor by the end of the desk, comfortably ensconced with pillows and blankets, I found the *night supervisor* asleep. Now in our time that could not have been done; or, if it had been,

the person who did it would have been dismissed instantly. Of course, in one sense, it was all right. She was there if the nurses wished to refer to her; but how about dignity, and example to the pupils of vigilance in duty?

I used to take pride in the trim completeness of the uniform, but that alas! among graduates, is a thing of the past. Of course I think the change from high collars to low, in summer, is wise and reasonable, and I don't mind short sleeves; but when it comes to sleeves three inches above the elbow, and décolleté blouses with Irish lace collars, I draw the line. I actually saw a graduate nurse on special duty, the other day, with no collar, and her shirtwaist turned in in a V at the neck; and, to crown all, she was an English nurse from the London Hospital. I just wished that Miss Richmond could have had her for a moment. Do you remember with what tremendous wrath she used to descend upon any nurse who wore her kerchief a little lower than she deemed proper?

There may be something engaging about the abandon of these days; but surely we have lost much in giving up courteous speech and a regard for personal dignity. While at the *Riverway*, my place at table was beside one of the senior nurses. I had known her plans of the day before, so I asked her at breakfast: "Did you get your late leave last night?" "Sure thing," she replied. "And did you do something interesting?" "You bet your life." Emphatic, surely; expressive, no doubt; and yet, after all, what a pity! what a very great pity! She had come to the training school fresh from high school, young and pliable. It was the privilege of her instructors to mould her womanhood; and I think that they owed it to her to make of her not only a responsible woman, but also a woman of gracious speech and courteous ways.

Life is very full of problems and perplexities, duties and drudgeries, yet they are all interesting because of their human relationships; and there are the joyful things, too, that count differently. Delia and I went to the Philharmonic last week; and we so seldom can, it was a great treat. We simply forgot everything in the glorious music; and, afterward, we walked home by the light of a radiant moon that made the commonplace streets like fairy land, or Paradise. There is really a very considerable zest in being poor. I am still making up the arrears of my last spring's illness; and I have to deny myself carfares, among other things. The shortest way home from church or shopping is across the Park, and there I find unsuspected lovelinesses that one would never see from a trolley car or a taxicab. The bare boughs of the trees against the sky remind me of Pennell's lovely etchings; and the grass, because of the abundant fall rains, irresistibly suggest England. The children, the squirrels and the pigeons give one thrills of youth; and the sunshine and

rippling water and the fragrance of the little fir trees that have been set as wind breaks round the garden seats, bring thoughts of the quiet country side and the still forests. Truly it is a lovely world, Mary, and they say the beauty of it is but the broidery of His garments.

Good bye, and don't forget to kiss the baby for me.

Your loving

MARGARET.

INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF NURSES, SAN FRANCISCO, 1915

(*Note:* The following interesting announcement has been issued by the Publicity Bureau of the Panama-Pacific Exposition, and is being sent to all nursing magazines. In reproducing it, we have taken the liberty of eliminating the figures of membership of the different organizations which we think are somewhat exaggerated in the original document.—ED.)

A congress of representative nurses of all nations of the world will meet in San Francisco upon the grounds of the Panama-Pacific International Exposition in June, 1915, and will spend one week in consideration of the problems of their profession, using the exhaustive exhibits touching upon their work to be found in the Departments of Education and Social Economy, and in the Palace of Liberal Arts, as working laboratories. As these exhibits will be the most inclusive and significant along their particular lines ever assembled, and as this will be the largest and most representative gathering of nurses of all the world, ever held, this congress will doubtless have greater results in the promotion of the alleviation of human suffering than any similar gathering in the history of civilization.

The congress will consist of the joint conventions of four great associations of nurses: The International Council of Nurses, in which fifteen nations are represented, including England, Ireland, Germany, France, Italy, Australia, China, Cuba and others; the American Nurses' Association; the National League of Nursing Education and the National Organization for Public Health Nursing. To these four organizations, the California State Nurses' Association will act as host. The Convention will open May 31, and close June 5, 1915.

Space has already been allotted in the Palaces of Education and of Liberal Arts for exhibits by nurses and nursing associations, and these will consist of hospital appliances, conveniences and improvements; methods of keeping records for inspection by superintendents of hospitals and head nurses, and registration charts for the compliance with state laws for registering nurses; statistical surveys of public health